11.8 Other Garfield County Public Health C.A.R.E.S Publicity

11.8.1 www.GarfieldCountyCARES.com

- Printout of Garfield County C.A.R.E.S. Program website
  (5 pages)

11.8.2 Miscellaneous

- Town of New Castle E-Newsletter with description of C.A.R.E.S. Project
- *Post Independent* newspaper article – "Helping the county chart its environmental course"
  (3 pages)

11.8.1 www.GarfieldCountyCARES.com

- Printout of Garfield County C.A.R.E.S. Program website (5 pages)

GARFIELD COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

C.A.R.E.S. Project [http://www.garfield-county.com/Index.aspx?page=1319]

(Community Action for Responsible Environmental Solutions)

What do YOU think
are the most significant Environmental *Health* issues
facing Garfield County?

Garfield County Residents have been identifying significant:

ENVIRONMENTAL *HEALTH* ISSUES [http://www.garfield-county.com/Index.aspx?page=1320]

- Email your thoughts to garcocares@gmail.com [mailto:garcocares@gmail.com]
- Mail a note about your thoughts to:
  CARES Project 195 W 14th St. Rifle, CO 81650
- Come to an open house meeting (dates, times and locations coming soon!):

  Carbondale
  Glenwood Springs
  New Castle
  Silt
  Rifle
  Parachute
  Battlement Mesa

CARES ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ISSUES

What Environmental *Health* Issues Are:

...any environmental factors that may:

- **Have a bad impact on human health, or**
- **Have an impact on the natural world that is bad in the long term for human health and the environments in which people live**

Why Everyone CARES about Environmental Health

Because improvements in people's health are due more to changes in their environments, both indoors and outdoors, than to medical science and medicine.

Identified Environmental Health Issues

Over the past several months, Garfield County residents have identfied 39 Environmental Health Issues for the County. They are listed in alphbetical order, **as of 02/01/10.**

BACTERIA and OTHER CONTAMINANTS in FOOD, due to unsafe food handling in retail food establishments and homes, transmit illness.

CHEMICALS USED in HYDRAULIC FRACTURING of natural gas wells may contaminate soil, ground water, and drinking water supplies that are essential to human health.

DISEASES like Rabies, West Nile Virus, Hantavirus, and Plague are transmitted to humans by insects and animals.

DRIVERS USING CELLPHONES or OTHER DISTRACTIONS threaten the health and safety of others on the roadways.

ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS from power lines and transmission towers may have human health consequences, potentially including cancer and other unknown hazards.

EMISSIONS from manufacturing and industry sources, vehicles, open burning, forest fires, fireplaces, lawnmowers, and many other sources, create outdoor air pollution that can be a human health hazard.

EMISSIONS that may include Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC's) from drilling next to Battlement Mesa golf course could affect the health of golfers and residents.

EXPOSURE to BENZENE from gas wells in proximity to residences may cause or worsen human health problems, such as nerve and bone marrow damage.

EXPOSURE to LEAD from paint in older homes, imported children's toys, and tailpipe gases in high-traffic corridors harms the growth and development of children, including exposure before they are born.

FARM ANIMAL ILLNESS and REPRODUCTION should be recognized as warnings about environmental exposures with potential to impact human health.

FLUORIDE in public drinking water supplies prevents tooth decay.

FOCUS on SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY PLANNING helps people take steps toward energy efficiency, zero waste, energy-conserving transportation, green building, and natural resource conservation.

GAS WELL EMISSIONS into the AIR, including flaring and venting, release known and unknown substances which may cause human health problems.

GROUND-LEVEL OZONE formed as a result of driving, fueling, solvent use, industrial emissions, etc., is a harmful air pollutant that affects human health.

HEAVY LARGE-VEHICLE TRAFFIC on roads not constructed for them creates road damage and may be hazardous for other vehicles and roadside activity.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE, including pharmaceuticals and personal care products, fluorescent light bulbs, paint, cleaning products, etc., may contaminate drinking water.

HOUSEHOLD WATER WELL CONTAMINATION by bacteria and other organisms, due to mining activity, grazing animals, leaking septic systems or storm water runoff, may cause serious illness.

IMPROPER DISPOSAL of GARBAGE and LITTER on both public and private lands may contaminate water and shelter animals that carry disease to humans.

INDOOR AIR POLLUTION accumulating in high concentrations from cleaning products, fireplaces, stoves, paints, solvents, cigarette smoke, and chemicals used in building materials and home furnishingscan contribute to a variety of health problems including asthma.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE spreads more easily when people are not fully immunized.

LIGHT POLLUTION at night may interfere with normal daily cycles that regulate and maintain human health.

MAGNESIUM CHLORIDE used on roads to melt snow and ice and reduce dust is a health concern for some individuals.

METH LABS create risks of fire and explosion and toxic chemicals that contaminate the interiors of buildings where meth labs are located and are challenging to clean up.

MORE OUTDOOR TOILETS would reduce the possibility of contaminating surface waters and causing illness.

MORE PEOPLE UNDERSTANDING the IMPACT of ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS on human health in Garfield County would improve residents' health.

NOISE POLLUTION can produce stress reactions, such as increases in blood pressure, pulse rate, and hormone secretion, that over time damage people's circulatory systems.

NOT ENFORCING ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS and REGULATIONS leads to environmental health problems.

NOT ENFORCING LABOR LAWS and REGULATIONS leads to unsafe working conditions.

ODORS and FUMES emitted from gas wells close to residential housing causes some residents to feel to feel ill in and around their homes

OVERCROWDED HOUSING leads to the spread of contagious illnesses.

POLLUTION of COLORADO RIVER WATER, used for human consumption, may occur if drilling

CARES PLAN

Garfield County C.A.R.E.S.

September- January	**Step 1 of the GCPH C.A.R.E.S. process is finding out what you think are the Environmental Health issues in Garfield County**
January- February	**Step 2 is putting the Environmental Health issues in priority order**
February- March	**Step 3 is asking what you think about the priorities**
2010 & Beyond	**Step 4 is about tackling the priority Environmental Health issues as resources become available.**

Visit www.garfieldcountycares.com [http://www.garfieldcountycares.com/] for updates

GCPH C.A.R.E.S. is funded by a Level 1 grant from EPA (United States Environmental Protection Agency).

GCPH needs your thoughts to qualify for a Level 2 grant from EPA. The Level 2 EPA grant is to decide what steps Garfield County can take to address the priority Environmental Health issues coming out of the Level 1 work.

GCPH Contact:
Jim Rada, Environmental Health Manager
Email: jrada@garfield-county.com
Garfield County Public Health
195 W. 14th St
Rifle, CO 81650
Phone: 970-625-5200 x 8113

11.8.2 Miscellaneous

- Town of New Castle E-Newsletter with description of C.A.R.E.S. Project
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  (3 pages)

From: Diana Royce Smith <diana@roycearbour.com>
Subject: **Re: Happy New Year**
Date: January 2, 2010 10:31:12 AM MST
To: srather@newcastlecolorado.org
1 Attachment, 35.7 KB

Sharon, thank you so much! We really appreciate your help.

Best, and Happy New Year! - Diana

Diana Royce Smith
President, Royce Arbour, Inc.
Hands-On Help for Management

Office 303.499.3272
Fax 720.304.3255
Cell 303.618.7762

5390 Manhattan Circle, Suite 101
Boulder, CO 80303
www.RoyceArbour.com

On Jan 1, 2010, at 4:30 PM, Town of New Castle wrote:

Having trouble viewing this email? Click here

New Castle News

Week of January 4th, 2010

Quick Links
Town Website
Chamber of Commerce
NC Library

Water, sewer, and trash rates are changing beginning January 1st
The new rates will be reflected on your Febrary 1, 2010 water bill.
for more information

photo by Suzie Romig

Take the bus to ski at Sunlight The bus will pick you up at various stops in

Dear Diana,
Here is what's happening in your town this week:

Meetings this week:

January 5th, 7:30 a.m. Lions Club Meeting, OZ Studio
January 5th, 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting
January 5th, 7:00 p.m. Town Council Regular Meeting

New Castle Launches Recycle Rewards Program
The program seeks to increase recycling among residents currently not enrolled in the town's recycling services.
Every quarter during 2010, Waste Management will randomly select a name from residential curbside recycling residents who have newly signed up for recycling services. The winning resident will receive **$100** OR a recycling toter upgrade (excluding animal resistant containers).
The Rewards Program will begin on January 2, 2010, and will run through December 31, 2010. ***To sign-up for Recycle Rewards, contact Waste Management at 970-384-6223.***

Volunteer Opportunities
Thank you for recycling your old phone books
The Town of New Castle thanks the volunteer New Castle Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) for working with the New Castle Post Office and Dex phone books to offer an in-town recycling collection of outdated phone books. The EAC took the phone books to the South Canyon Landfill, where they were composted, keeping them out of the landfill. Compost is easy and inexpensive to obtain at the landfill. Call 328-0979 for details.

To get involved in any of the varied efforts of the Environmental Advisory Committee, contact Suzie at 984-0502.

Helping the county chart its environmental course

Citizens to take part in online survey about environmental issues

John Colson
Post Independent staff

Garfield County is about midway through an effort, funded by a federal grant, to determine exactly what local residents believe are the most critical environmental health issues facing the region.

According to an e-mailed announcement sent out this week by the county's consultant, Royce Arbour Associates of Boulder, the process is about to involve approximately 150 volunteers, who will be taking part in an online survey this month.

"You will receive e-mails asking you personally to register your thinking online three different times," stated the e-mail message, which was issued in the name of Environmental Health Manager Jim Rada.

"The purpose is to help Garfield County citizens to come to consensus on environmental health issues," the message continued. "As a panel member, you will see consensus grow, plus receive a complete report on the results."

The project is called "Garfield County C.A.R.E.S.," which stands for Community Action for Responsible Environmental Solutions, Rada told the Post Independent.

The effort began in earnest in 2009, according to Rada, although he got the $99,000 grant in 2007 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The grant, which is due to expire in October, is meant to provide funding to "define environmental health concerns related to rapid community and industrial growth in Garfield County," according to a July 20, 2009, letter from the Board of County Commissioners — which also acts as the Board of Health.

In that letter, the commissioners put out a call for up to 75 county residents to take part in the survey, but Rada noted that things have changed since the middle of 2009.

For one thing, he reported, the panel of participants has "doubled in size," in large part due to a high level of interest among citizens who participated in early meetings and discussions about the survey.

Rada said that, working with the community's input, he has generated a list of 37 environmental concerns, which are listed on the project's website, www.garfieldcountycares.com. That list will be refined and listed by priority according to the responses to the online survey.

The list so far begins with bacteria and other contaminants in food, followed by the chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing of natural gas wells; diseases that can be transmitted to humans from animals; drivers using cell phones and other distracting devices; airborne emissions from gas drilling operations; and more than 30 additional matters.

In addition to the survey, the consultants will host a series of public meetings in April and May to present the results and a "draft report" detailing residents' feelings about environmental health issues, according to Rada.

Following that, he said, the consultants will compile a final report on the survey data.

Rada said the current work is only Phase One of the project. He expects to apply for more grant money for Phase Two next year, perhaps in partnership with a community organization, which would involve a search for what Rada called "community-based solutions" to some of the problems and priorities identified in Phase One.